

REMARKS

The Examiner has asserted a Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§121 and 372, requiring restriction of the application to one of the following claim groups:

- Group I including claims 1-11 and 31;
- Group II including claims 12-20 and 32; and
- Group III including claims 21-30 and 33.

The Examiner also requires an election of a single species from the following groups:

- Group I (Figures 5-15);
- Group II (Figures 16 and 18-22); and
- Group III (Figures 23-33).

The Examiner alleges that the claims correspond to the species as follows:

- Figures 5-15 to Claims 1-11 and 31;
- Figures 16 and 18-22 to Claims 12-20 and 32; and
- Figures 23-33 to Claims 21-30 and 33.

Although Applicant disagrees with the Examiner that Groups I-III are distinct inventions, Applicant elects Group III claims including claims 21-30 and 33 and Group III species including claims 21-30 and 33 readable on Figures 23-33 for prosecution in this application. Claim 21 is generic to the various species.

Applicant has elected Group III in order to expedite prosecution of this application, so that claims 1-20, 31, and 32 have been cancelled without disclaimer or prejudice. Claims 21-30 and 33 (1 independent claim and 11 total claims) remain pending in the application. The foregoing amendment conforms this application to the restriction requirement contained in the Office Action dated May 17, 2004. The foregoing election is made without waiver, estoppel, or prejudice to the filing of one or more related applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

The undersigned would welcome a telephone call at (602) 382-6306 if this would advance prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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